



Robert Greene Sterne  
Edward J. Kessler  
Jorge A. Goldstein  
David K.S. Comwell  
Robert W. Esmond  
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin  
Michele A. Cimbala  
Michael B. Ray  
Robert E. Sokohl  
Eric K. Steffe  
Michael Q. Lee  
Steven R. Ludwig  
John M. Covert  
Linda E. Alcorn  
Robert C. Millionig  
Donald J. Featherstone  
Lawrence B. Bugaisky  
Michael V. Messinger  
Judith U. Kim

Timothy J. Shea, Jr.  
Patrick E. Garrett  
Jeffrey T. Helvey  
Heidi L. Kraus  
Albert L. Ferro  
Donald R. Banowitz  
Peter A. Jackman  
Teresa U. Medler  
Jeffrey S. Weaver  
Kendrick P. Patterson  
Vincent L. Capuano  
Eldora Ellison Floyd  
Thomas C. Fiala  
Brian J. Del Buono  
Virgil Lee Beaton  
Theodore A. Wood  
Elizabeth J. Haanes  
Joseph S. Ostroff  
Frank R. Cottingham

Christine M. Lhulier  
Rae Lynn P. Guest  
George S. Bardmesser  
Daniel A. Klein  
Jason D. Eisenberg  
Michael D. Specht  
Andrea J. Kamage  
Tracy L. Muller  
Jon E. Wright  
LuAnne M. DeSantis  
Ann E. Summerfield  
Aric W. Ledford  
Helene C. Carlson  
Cynthia M. Bouchez  
Timothy A. Doyle  
Gaby L. Longworth  
Lori A. Gordon  
Nicole D. Dretar  
Ted J. Ebersole

Jyoti C. Iyer  
Laura A. Vogel  
Michael J. Mancuso  
Bryan S. Wade  
Aaron L. Schwartz  
Matthew E. Kelley  
Nicole R. Kramer

**Registered Patent Agents\***  
Karen R. Markowicz  
Nancy J. Leith  
Matthew J. Dowd  
Aaron L. Schwartz  
Katrina Yujian Pei Quach  
Bryan L. Skelton  
Robert A. Schwartzman  
Teresa A. Colella  
Jeffrey S. Lundgren  
Victoria S. Rutherford

Michelle K. Holoubek  
Simon J. Elliott  
Julie A. Heider  
Mita Mukherjee  
Scott M. Woodhouse  
Michael G. Penn  
Christopher J. Walsh  
Peter A. Socarras

**Of Counsel**  
Kenneth C. Bass III  
Evan R. Smith  
Marvin C. Guthrie

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\*Admitted only in Virginia  
\*Practice Limited to Federal Agencies

January 5, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:**

(202) 772-8831

**INTERNET ADDRESS:**

JWEAVER@SKGF.COM

**Art Unit 2636**

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Appl. No. 10/073,000; Filed: February 12, 2002  
For: **Method, System and Apparatus for Communicating With a RFID Tag Population**  
Inventors: SHANKS *et al.*  
Our Ref: 1689.0260000

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,  
STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Jeffrey S. Weaver  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 45,608

RES/JSW:apg  
Enclosures  
351091\_1.DOC



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

SHANKS *et al.*

Appl. No.: 10/073,000

Filed: February 12, 2002

For: **Method, System and Apparatus for  
Communicating With a RFID Tag  
Population**

Confirmation No.: 5128

Art Unit: 2636

Examiner: La, Anh V.

Atty. Docket: 1689.0260000

**Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated October 5, 2004, Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, amendments to the specification by presenting replacement paragraphs marked up to show changes made;
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
  - in ascending order;
  - with status identifiers; and
  - with markings in the currently amended claims;
- (D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent

abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.